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Message Text

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53
ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 CIEP-02 IO-14 NIC-01

DRC-01 /098 W
---------- 087876
O 111600Z JUL 74
FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7515
INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN JOSE 2639

E.O. 1165-' GDS
TAGS: PFOR, OAS, CS, CU
SUBJECT: CUBA

REF: STATE 149324 NOTAL

1. FORTUITOUSLY, FACIO ASKED ME TO RIDE WITH HIM FROM AIR-
PORT THIS MORNING FOLLOWING DEPARTURE OF MEXICAN PRESIDENT
ECHEVERRIA. HE WANTED TO GIVE ME THE FOLLOWING INFORMA-
TION ON THE CUBA SITUATION:

A. WHILE HE WAS IN CARACAS FOR THE LOS CONFERENCE,
BOTH VENEZUELA AND COLOMBIA INFORMED HIM THAT THEY WERE
PREPARED TO MOVE PROMPTLY AND UNILATERALLY TO RECOGNIZE
CUBA. ACCORDING TO FACIO, THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, PANAMA
AND ECUADOR ARE READY TO JOIN IN THIS ACTION.

B. FACIO BELIEVES STRONGLY THAT THE ABOVE ACTION
WOULD EFFECTIVELY DESTROY THE RIO TREATY AND SEVERELY
DAMAGE THE OAS, SINCE 5 COUNTRIES ADDED TO THE 7 WHICH
ALREADY RECOGNIZE CUBA WOULD CONSTITUTE A MAJORITY OF
RIO TREATY SIGNATORIES.

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C. FACIO SAYS THAT HE PLEADED WITH VENEZUELA AND

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COLOMBIA FOR TIME TO FIND AN ALTERNATIVE. IN HIS MIND
THE ONLY VIABLE ALTERNATIVE TO UNILATERAL ACTION WOULD
BE AGREEMENT TO HOLD A MEETING OF FOREIGN MINISTERS UNDER THE
RIO TREATY IN THE NEAR FUTURE TO DEAL ONCE AND FOR ALL WITH THE
QUESHBON OF CONTINUED SANCTIONS AGAINST CUBA. FACIO SAYS THAT
HE THINKS HE HAS AGREEMENT FROM VENEZUELA AND COLOMBIA TO
DELAY ANY UNILATERAL ACTION UNTIL AT LEAST AUGUST 1
WHILE HE TRIES TO DEVELOP SUPPORT FOR A MFM. ACCORDING
TO FACIO THE MFM ITSELF NEED NOT TAKE PLACE UNTIL A CON-
VENIENT LATER DATE, POSSIBLY OCTOBER, BUT THE DECISION
TO GO THAT ROUTE MUST BE REACHED BY EARLY AUGUST OR THE
5 COUNTRIES WILL GO THEIR WAY.

D. FACIO WILL START IMMEDIATELY TO MOBILIZE SUPPORT
FOR A MFM. HE IS LEAVING LATER THIS MORNING FOR GUATEMALA
TO SEEK GOG SUPPORT OF HIS POSITION. HE WILL ASK THE
GOG TO APPROACH EL SALVADOR AND PERHAPS NICARAGUA, WHILE
HE WILL APPROACH HONDURAS. FACIO'S HOPE IS TO ACHIEVE
CENTRAL AMERICAN BLOC SUPPORT FOR A MFM.

E. FACIO ALSO BELIEVES HE HAS MEXICAN FONMIN RABASA'S
TACIT SUPPORT FOR A MFM ON CUBA, AND HOPES THAT ECHEVERRIA
AND RABASA WILL SUPPORT THIS LINE DURING THE REST OF THEIR
SOUTH AMERICAN TOUR. FACIO OBVIOUSLY FELT THIS WAS SOME-
THING OF ACOUP OF A COUP MEXICO WAS AFTER ALL THE FIRST
COUNTRY TO RECOGNIZE CUBA UNILATERALLY.

F. FACIO IS CONSIDERING A VISIT TO THE DOMI-
NICAN REPUBLIC NEXT WEEK TO SEEK SUPPORT FOR HIS POSITION.
HE WOULD THEN GO TO CARACAS IF THINGS HAVE
GONE WELL FOR HIM BY THAT TIME.

2. I HAVE FACIO THE SUBSTANCE OF REFTEL, WHICH HE UNDER-
STANDS. HOWEVER, IN THE LIGHT OF THE DEVELOPMENTS RECOUN-
TED ABOVE HE DOES NOT BELIEVE THAT A MFM WOULD BE "PRE-
MATURE". IN FACT, HE IS CONVINCED THAT IT IS ESSENTIAL
IF THE RIO TREATY IS TO BE SAVED. HE URGED ME TO PRESENT
HIS VIEWS, WHICH APPARENTLY ENJOY PRESIDENT ODUBER'S FULL
SUPPORT, TO WASHINGTON IN THE HOPE THAT THE USG WILL
UNDERSTAND AND NOT OPPOSE HIS INITIEFIVE. HE PROMOSED TO
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BE IN TOUCH WITH ME WHEN HE RETURNS FROM GUATEMALA WHICH
MAY BE FRIDAY.

3. I ASKED FACIO WHETHER HE WOULD CONTINUE TO SUPPORT
HIS THESIS THAT A 2/3 MAJORITY IS REQUIRED TO MAINTAIN
SANCTIONS. HE REPLIED THAT HE WOULD ADVANCE THIS ARGUMENT,
BUT THAT HE WOULD BE RECEPTIVE TO ANY REASONABLE FORMULA
WHICH THE U.S. OR OTHERS MIGHT ADVANCE.

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4. FACIO TOLD ME AGAIN THAT IN ANY CASE THE GOCR HAS NO INTENTION OF ESTABLISHING BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH CUBA.
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